

Live captioning by Ai-Media

SPEAKER:

I will switch to having Jos share real quick. Just a super fast! Not surprising. Let's get started then. Hi, everyone.

KEN PATTERSON:

One second, I will hit the record button.

SPEAKER:

Hi everyone, the folks who do not know me, I am a Lakeisha McVey, I am a -- on PT with Ken, Josh, Lisa, and others. Whether you are an experienced advocate, or a brand-new advocate, or there is is your very first National Webinar, I wanted to say welcome. First, I want to celebrate our Set the Agenda Campaign that has been going on the last few months.

That is all go -- all about getting Congress to prioritize antipoverty initiatives and the legislative agenda. And in just the last month, you all went from having at least 54 meetings with members of Congress. Tina having over 150 meetings with plenty more scheduled. Which is an amazing accomplishment and he should all be so proud of yourselves. Incredible work! Keep it going as we finish out the rest of April.

And I just want to remind folks, never forget why we do this work. You know, anti poverty initiatives have real effects on real people who are currently falling into poverty. Or already involving... To address an end poverty. And far too often, those anti-poverty policies are created without consulting folks with lived experience of poverty, despite the fact that these individuals have unique personal experiences.

And knowledge that are essential in every -- in any poverty reduction experts. Their expertise helps build understanding, reduce stigma, and improve anti-poverty research, policy, and organizational practices.

As you can see on the slide, organizational values states that we are pledging to create a space for all voices, including and especially those who have lived experience of poverty. So, it is really our response ability to assure that we are honoring people with lives experienced in his work.

That goes beyond elevating them in the media or with legislators, it means and consulted them on the policies we choose to prioritize and advocate for. Mentally our organization runs. You know, seeing them as more than people who can, you know, just tell a story. Being storytellers is just one part of who they are and the skill sets that they hold.

The Oxford dictionary defines expert as a person who has a comprehensive and authoritative knowledge of or skill and if it's a given area. Yet, we often consider someone expert based on their title

or how well-known they are.

For their years in academia. The king about like Dorothy Brown's and the (unknown name) of the world. Not to say, and those folks are amazing. I would argue that no one is an expert left --... Also understand the emotional, mental, and physical toll that poverty has on her life. Because as someone who experiences it, they live and breathe every school day.

Many of which also have degrees or professional experience in the anti-property realm. And different. And truly, some people with lift experience also means reporting on and addressing our own vices. So we do not contribute to the stigma that folks already experience on a day-to-day basis. I've heard from many volunteers that you really want to learn how to recruit and interact with folks with lived experiences within your group and build relationships, strong, lasting relationships.

I have also heard from volunteers with and without lived experience of assemblies that maybe their experience with RESULTS has not always been that inquisitive. That is something we are continuing to work together to learn and grow and improve. That is why it is so important for all of us to continue, you know, like I said, working together. To confront the ways that we may contribute unintentionally to oppressive practice and being open for suggestions on how we can all do better.

That of us are perfect. Together, we can make long-lasting change to bring about the end of poverty and oppression. That go hand-in-hand. Right?

And yeah, so I appreciate you all listening. And that concludes our webinar today for everyone. The only thing I want to mention, and share this , before folks jumped off is, April. Just kidding! Having April fools everyone! – Mike April fools. I think it is underrated holiday this back holiday for those who like practical jokes. This webinar is not overcome if the party is just getting started.

We have a lot of phenomenal content today. But, despite give you a chance to keep a lookout for those pranks today, because you never know who could get you!

Alright, today like I said, you're going to learn from, I have some great content. You get to learn from some of our Experts on Poverty. I had to be more inclusive and from various staff on how those with lived experience in our work. Before we take into that, we would like to know who is in the room today. So, I will turn it over to Jos quickly for a quick poll.

KEN PATTERSON:

I have opened up the pole for you to let us know how your participating today. It is just you, or your integrate, we would love for you to take a pool so we can get a somewhat accurate account of how many folks are participating in the webinar today. Will do this for another 30 seconds or so and then we will close the poll. We are about 75%. Looks like a lot of folks coming in by themselves, but a couple of us in small groups, which is great.

Just a few more folks to take it. So... Alright, we will give it 10 more seconds and then we will end the

poll. If you have not taken it, go ahead and fill it out, and let us know how you are participating today.

Looks like a lot of folks participate by themselves today, but if you folks with two or three and maybe find the room.

We appreciate you being on the website today and we will turn it back over to Keisha.

SPEAKER:

Also, thank you, Jos. It is so great to see 70 folks on the line today. Before I turn it over to Chua Park Experts on Poverty, I wanted to share a little bit about what the Experts on Poverty program is. For folks to become more familiar with it. So, the Experts on Poverty program is a cohorts about phenomenal individuals with past or current experiences of poverty across the nation. That includes things like food security, housing insecurity, homelessness, income instability, and experience utilizing our complex government programs like food stamps or steps back. And WIC. They use their unique knowledge of these expertise to advocate for more insight poverty policies along with the rest of you.

There are many different avenues. They speak at conferences and community events across the country. They educate lawmakers, provide trainings. Many topics to grassroots. As bubble happened today. And also other organizations on how to be an effective advocate and just like elevating their lived experience also through local and national media.

Which I'm sure some of you, at some point of time, have probably seen at that, or a video, or podcast, from Experts on Poverty. So, they do a lot of work and elevating what is really like to live in poverty in the United States.

There truly an amazing group of people that I am very grateful to get to provide support you as the manager of the program. As today, two of our Experts on Poverty, Marine bowling and Sarah is about are here to do a training for you all.

On practices you can implement to build more inclusive and welcoming groups. Maureen is a mother and social worker from Lexington, Kentucky. Pursuing her Masters of social work degree. Wallingford is made in the RESULTS Fellowship and has been in Expert on Poverty for many, many years. Sarah is a mother, scientist, and an advocate pursuing her PhD in neuroscience at Stanford and California.

She was a result -- RESULTS as well and currently holds many roles as RESULTS anything Experts on Poverty, Regional Coordinator, and group leader. Both are very well-versed in what it is like to partner for RESULTS and advocates alongside other volunteers like many of you.

So, I will turn it over to Sarah and Maureen.

SPEAKER:

I will go first, Keisha. Hi, everyone. Thank you so much. How are we passing the sides? Well, hi everyone. I am so glad to see so many faces that I know! I am really excited to be careful to buy this everyone from Virginia. Seeing you all here makes me so happy! Everyone from Virginia, Maryland, and the region.

So, yeah. Yeah, you can pass the next slide. One of the things I wanted to talk about is, as someone with lived experience, we face some barriers to doing efficacy. That sometimes you cannot see. -- advocacy. Because they are very private, sometimes to our lives. I wanted to bring also generate awareness of the group.

Excuse me. I have a cold (Laughs). So, one of the things is lack of family support. Sometimes, our families do not understand why we are taking our time, especially for those facing poverty. They do not understand why we take our time to do advocacy.

So, we have to go up against people in our own households sometimes I do not believe in what we're doing and do not see the big picture and it. Lack of financial support. Sometimes, we do not have Internet.

We may not have a computer. We may not be able to access things that are very common for a lot of people in the group. And that makes it really hard for us to be able to advocate.

Even though we have that experience, because of that lived experience, we do not have the financial support for things like traveling to conferences. Lack of access to advocacy. Sometimes we do not have -- know that we can be advocates. That we can use our voice to really speak up.

Sometimes we also need training to be able to speak in ways that really mobilize and, you know, help members of Congress see what we are talking about. And how we're bringing the points of our lived experience.

Imposter fears. These are very common. As they are very personal to me, as well. Because sometimes, you are still in poverty. And you are too afraid to say, "well, I am still in poverty, how can I advocate for the end of something that I am still living with?" Or sometimes, you're not in poverty anymore, and you do not have that experience anymore. How do I advocate?

I experience that all the time. I am now how secure. But, when I started advocating when I was food and home insecure, and now how secure, sometimes I am afraid of speaking about the times I was homeless because now I am no longer homeless. It is really important for us to face our own fears.

Environmental support. If your group does not allow people to truly speak and share their experiences, it is really hard, especially if you are coming into a group and your new advocacy and you do not have the tools yet. And you are developing them.

Having a group that is supportive really helps you to be able to advocate. If you do not have that, that is a barrier to advocacy as a person with lived experience. Lack of time. A lot of us are juggling school, work, childcare, taking care of family members.

And we just do not have the time that other people have to be able to do advocacy. Although we want to do more, sometimes we just do not have the time. Other, I will pass it

Here is a picture of a wonderful James Lee advocating for CTC. I want to talk about the world people with live experience have. Our biggest role in a group is to be a storyteller. To be able to tell our stories in powerful ways, and share our expertise and lobby meetings, and group meetings too. If we are comfortable we can share them in group meetings as well.

As well as help with media. I have a member of my group in Silicon Valley – we were doing a workshop on letters to the editor and writing them together and reading to each other. I read about my personal experience on the letter to the editor. She reached out and said, "Hey Sarah, can I use your story in my letter to the editor as well?"

I trusted her and said, "Absolutely!"

We don't have to be the ones to share our experience, but we can dissipate in a process while others also share. -- Participate while others also share.

I think now I'm passing it to Maureen. You can skip the slide please.

Maureen.

MAUREEN BOWLING:

Thank you Sarah, and thank you Keisha for allowing just a few of our wonderful Experts on Poverty with lived experience to produce debate in this National Webinar. Hopefully in the upcoming months you can see more of our teams faces, so that our entire advocacy group across the nation can learn more about what we do so we can build engagement between both sides of the fence or people with lived experience in poverty, as well as people with many decades of experience on the hill.

What I want to talk about is if UAs -- a few ways to share your story and when we share them.

Goes without saying, in our RESULTS conversation, and additionally on Capitol Hill.

That said, there are many other situations where we have opportunities arise where we can share our stories with people to revoke change in our communities, and hopefully influence people who have never taken steps to advocate for really meaningful things. Hopefully our stories can help those people become part of what we do in some way.

That said, our stories always – for me personally, and enough for all the other experts, go beyond Capitol Hill and beyond our groups.

What's really important is we are focusing on key factors in conversation that demonstrate a lack of knowledge and understanding when relating to people who we encounter every day in our communities.

For example, if you are having a conversation at church, social gathering, dinner, etc., and someone is

gossiping about a neighbor who has 30 children, unkept hair, etc. We can have general and educated conversations with them, such as have you checked on them? We don't know if they have lost their job, they might not have water running in their home right now.

That said, for people with lived experience, it is isolating. It's embarrassing to not be able to make you, your family, -- make your and your family's basic needs. A lot of times people withdraw.

It is up to us in our groups to reach out to those people to make them feel welcome, create space for them, to start to learn and feel comfortable sharing their stories and create an area of welcome – just acceptance no matter where a person is in their life.

That being said, some things you can talk about when sharing your story or helping others share theirs is: figure out what your why is. Thank you for the slide.

Talk about what you have seen, what you have experienced, and if you have lived experience I want to make sure that we focus on keeping ourselves safe and protected with our stories, because a lot of times we feel pressure to create this intense change and are desperate for change; we have been grasping at straws for so many years we feel like we are the ones that need to do it all and need to share every bit of our trauma in poverty to create that change.

So really protecting yourself as a person with lived experience, and making sure you are choosing what you share and don't share, and choosing to share it in a safe environment that will protect yourself and your family.

Just know you don't need to disclose anything you are not comfortable with. Even if you are asked to.

The main thing to focus on throughout all of it is what is your "Why"? That's where you need to re-center and refocus yourself when you feel burnt out. I just think from both sides of the fence, if we can start to build that space in our groups and develop these conversations amongst one another, we can start to see real change with intention behind it.

The exchange of powerful knowledge of our lived poverty experience and experience advocacy expert in our groups. We can exchange the power we have by removing the divide due to decades of exposure of systemic racism and prejudiced ideals many of us grew up with.

That begins by talking with each other and learning together how to share our stories, and share the stories of those we care about.

I will pass it back to Sarah. Thank you.

SARAH IZABEL:

Thank you Maureen, you are such an inspiration as everyone in EOP group, I love to hear and I learned so much from each of you.

Next slide please.

What I want to talk about now is how we can, in our groups, create this environment of belonging where everyone is feeling included. It is not just about equity, we have learned it's about feeling inclusion.

For people with lived experience, what does that look like? What are things that matter second help us feel a sense of belonging in a group that will really help in sharing our experience?

These are the things I will talk about. I will go over each of them. I won't name them right now, but they will be coming.

Next slide please.

The first thing is defining clarifications, roles and limitations of engagement.

It is important to set up rules upfront. We know sometimes issues will arise in our groups. So what are the rules? How do we know how to deal with that?

If someone in your group right now feels oppressed or uncomfortable after an interaction or something that happened in a group meeting, who do they go to? If you can't answer this question, maybe that's what you need to do in your next meeting. Set up these rules, engage in ways that are respect for to everyone, and have ways to solve personal issues if they arise. Have ways to solve uncomfortable issues if they arise.

How do you check to make sure everyone is safe? And when you interact with your group, people who are coming in; people who are like when your welcoming new member is, how do we know we're making them feel comfortable? That they know they can speak up in this group? They know they can share their personal experience?

Next slide.

Be purposeful, low people with live experience to engage with others in a meaningful way.

How many meetings have you had in your groups that are focused on anti-oppression? If you are constantly talking about anti-oppression and constantly bringing up these issues, that will open up the door for people with lived experience to share. To know they are in a place where these conversations happen, where they will be respected and will be heard.

Do you know what people with lived experience are part of the group right now?

Do you know if you, sometimes it's hard to recognize our own lived experience. I had a stint in my life in which food was hard, but it was only a month. Well, that is lived experience. Sometimes we minimize that.

Ask yourself and asking your group if people – if there are lived experiences we can help use to engage the group?

Sometimes people may come and say, "But we need to use these meetings to do advocacy. To write letters, etc."

Don't forget who you are doing the advocacy for. It's important to bring people up and raise everybody up.

Next slide.

Don't further traumatize, experience and poverty is very traumatizing. It leaves marks on you forever.

So be aware of cultural differences, we do a lot of international advocacy, so it is important to keep in mind things are not going to be seen the same way by everyone. Constantly check for everyone's comfort level, and adapt to current needs and focus on emotional safety in your group.

Next slide please.

Focus on belonging first. Have an open space policy. You need to ensure there is a focus on belonging, where we are constantly checking in on our group. Listen first and allow others to speak.

Sometimes people who are used to speaking a lot in groups come in, and they always speak. There's a time for everyone, there needs to be time for everyone to be able to share their experience. Some moments of silence can help with that.

Provide a forum also for anonymous feedback. What if someone has an issue with a group? Who should they reach out to? Which auto results mac and after resources, say who can someone in my group reach out to? Who can give honest feedback? That will really help the group grow.

The focus on this is helping the whole group grow.

Next slide.

No and check your privilege. Please don't make assumptions about other people's situations. Don't assume just because someone has lived in appearance that they want to share. It's traumatizing, and sometimes hard for me to share and I cry. It just comes out because it's fresh. Some environments I'm not comfortable to share my lived experience.

Don't assume people can participate events. If you're having an in person event, make sure you check everyone can actually come, or people may need a ride or something like that. Please don't assume they can just come, just because you can.

And don't assume they can give more effort just because they have more expertise. What we try to do is avoid exploiting and tokenizing and exporting people here.

Next slide.

If you take away anything from this, I'm at time now. If you take away anything, remember like Maureen said. We don't have to tell our stories just because we have a lived experience story. It could be too fresh for us, or we haven't processed yet so we can share yet.

During meetings at event have an open space policy and cultivate silence so people can, who normally can't speak, can speak up.

And constantly check in on your group health.

I hope this helps us to create groups that are more inclusive, and that everyone in your group feels like they belong there.

Thank you.

... Sorry. Next slide please. (Laughs). I'm not leaving just yet.

I just wanted to let you know we are doing breakout rooms now. After all of this that we have shared, we want to know what something your group does? Or what is something you have seen other groups to to create these inclusive spaces? These places of belonging.

Where practices you or your group could apply meant to be more inclusive? Where you are really creating spaces where people with lived experience can thrive and really help in our advocacy.

How long do we have Keisha?

LAKEISHA MCVEY:

You will have about 15 minutes in breakout rooms.

SARAH IZABEL:

You will have 15 minutes. Make sure you some of the steps now and allow everyone to speak. Let's listen and share the time.

The groups are being created now. You can click join, and if you have any issues or need help getting into your group, just reach out and we will help you. Good luck discussing.

(Breakout Rooms)

KEN PATTERSON:

... About their lives and their -- often times, there is a prompt. With really interesting ones as well. So,

we do that. Anyone who has a leadership role of any sort, or some sort of a role, we try to put that on the agenda too, actually.

So that anyone has some sort of role in the group has an opportunity to share what they are doing in fact create space to feature almost everyone in the group has a role in the chance to share from what it is their focus on, what they're doing, but they are doing to support the carbon particular way. -- Support the group any particular way.

SARAH IZABEL:

I like that. I think part of the reason why some people have a hard time speaking, is because maybe they are... Right? To share things. So, I think that is great. Anyone else?

KEN PATTERSON:

See if you can make ourselves now if you were trying to speak before. -- Unmute yourselves.

JOS LINN:

Hi this is just, I am in Kansas City. I want to share something not so much about what the group does. And it is an inclusive space. Because we do that for people in our group. So, we always try to make sure that their voices, just to share what they want to.

More about the importance of us having the conversations. Even as the group level. Right before our webinar today, I went to a Town Hall for my local state rep here.

As she talked about some of the legislation that is coming out of Missouri legislature. And how this past week, a legislator attached an amendment to every single budget bill that was going through that did not have any kind of funding or any reference to programs that provide diversity, equity, and inclusion. The state will take it out of all schools, including universities.

Anyone who did business with the state, they would not get state funding if they put in the social programs. They talked about how horrible it was. And people were crying as they talked about these issues. Folks with live experience or folks who have dealt with racism or other types of oppression.

And the bill still passed. The amendment still passed. Hopefully the Senate in this very largely to come to his senses and strip it out. Just some horrible stuff we are seeing coming out of states right now.

Promoting this type of oppressive legislation that, frankly, it is political in my opinion. Ignoring the fact that it is hurting a lot of people. The doctor having these types of conversations, that is where it starts. You see these folks and they realize, "hey, wait a minute, this is not just about scoring political points, this has real impact on people's lives. And if we do not do something about it, it'll just get worse."

So, anyways.

SARAH IZABEL:

Yeah, I think just even part of the meeting, right? Have a 15 minute conversation in your meeting

about something a overrated, that is really, really valuable. --AO related. It does not have to be the whole meeting. There are so many resources on the website that we can use during these meetings that can really help guide people.

Thank you Jos for sharing.

KEN PATTERSON:

Other folks in the room here, you should be able to unmute yourselves. We would love to hear from you guys. Do not be shy now.

LAKEISHA McVEY:

I was aching about what you're saying, anything we have an adverse reaction to those causation's that make us uncomfortable. Conversations about diversity, equity, and inclusion. Naturally make you uncomfortable. Especially if you have very privileged identities. It can be hard to talk about topics like these.

And I think our country is kind of going in a pattern where we are like, instead of confronting that uncomfortably, we are running from it. That is why you are seeing, like, bannings of... Conversation. Anything is good to just remind ourselves, like, when she started to feel uncomfortable once you're in a conversation, -- once you start to feel uncomfortable, instead of walking away from it, reflect on why you feel that way.

And keep pushing forward. The only way we will be more comfortable with these conversations is by continuing to happen. -- Have them. I appreciate you, Sarah and Maureen, for highlighting that.

SARAH IZABEL:

Someone said... Who said like, "oh, we have something in our group." And someone was uncomfortable. I just know, there is something that happens in the group or someone was uncomfortable by it. -- I do not know.

But then someone else said it, and they realized that they were not the only ones uncomfortable with that situation. And they were grateful that someone else brought it up.

I think it makes us realize that sometimes we are uncomfortable after an interaction, like any group or something, that we are not the only ones who are uncomfortable. And that is -- it might be something important to bring up.

And I think that really helps Gus regularly helped me see that -- it really helped me see that we are not uncomfortable to feel alone. And to find a way to bring things up, maybe directly to a person, or any group setting, or whatever.

Because...

SPEAKER:

Just FYI, I think it would be kind of cool to see how many people admit to actually having these conversations. In their breakout rooms. And actually minimize the information I was given because they are uncomfortable.

And so, that is one of the reasons why I am here. Because I wanted to come into another room where people were actually having real conversations. And not just like minimizing, "oh, what is your group doing?" Because I do not think that is helpful. So, we are headed in the exact same situations. -- end up.

And we have the opportunity to assert ourselves and render implicit biases and have to become more open and inclusive. So yeah, I think people do not really understand the importance of Wendy's opportunities to come up, that they are able to have the conversations. -- When these opportunities to come up.

So, we can continue to grow in Jesus able to not RESULTS.

MAUREEN BOWLING:

I like what you said about being uncomfortable. I always tell people I'm working with, or in my groups, if you feel uncomfortable and do not know what to say, it is probably because you need to do more listening and learning from the person you're speaking with.

And in the present. So, it is important to be uncomfortable. It means good work is being done.

KEN PATTERSON:

This is a good sign of people are coming back slowly, it means they're having conversations in their room.

MICHAEL SANTOS:

Do not forget to record.

KEN PATTERSON:

Thanks, Michael. I will hit that right now.

SPEAKER:

Recording in process.

MAUREEN BOWLING:

Is everyone back again?

SARAH IZABEL:

Sarah has her hand up, I am not sure.

KEN PATTERSON:

I believe everyone is back.

MAUREEN BOWLING:

Sarah, did you need something?

SARAH LEONE:

I just wanted to say that I really appreciated change and what you have said about how change comes when you're uncomfortable. Etiquette starts with us. Especially those of us better leaders. Mentors, managers, like whatever will we have within RESULTS.

We have people watching us. So, I think it is important for us to be self-aware. It is important to be with myself consistently. I have to ask myself, "it might be biased here? Am I not listening to this person? X, Y, and Z."

I think it is okay to have uncomfortable moments, because that is where change comes from. So, I really appreciated what was said in the main -- Breakout Room.

MAUREEN BOWLING:

That being said, welcome back. And I hope you had great conversations in your breakout rooms. We have a few minutes, I would like to hear from two or three people about anything you may have learned in group conversations.

Or some ideas that you may have come up with. And if we can take it to 60 seconds or so, so we can have multiple people share, that would be great.

KEN PATTERSON:

You should be able to unmute yourself so raise your hand for that or put it in the chat....

SPEAKER:

Can you hear me now?

KEN PATTERSON:

Yes, much better.

SPEAKER:

I found myself reaching for a pen and a piece of paper. Does everyone know that RESULTS Houston at the RESULTS website, they can report if an incident comes up that they are... That with their group. Am I making sense. That taking reports the incident as the RESULTS website. So, thank you for that reminder.

Did not make any sense? That you can report. At the RESULTS website. If something... Or your RESULTS group did not get results, you can report it. That I want us to talk about that.

And then cultivating silence. We should try that. I do not know, maybe 30 seconds. Put it in the agenda. So, that was helpful to me. And then a reminder, not all have lived experience with poverty

want to share. Thanks.

SPEAKER:

We had examples during our breakout room session. Someone with the child would still participate in everyone's tolerant, and sometimes they can be challenging. (?)

Asking questions to the other members, finding answers for you if they didn't, they would find resources for you to find out.

It makes you feel, Mavissa, a sense of belonging to the group. To bring you up and accommodate your situation.

In any group, you want to feel welcome and be part of the group. We had examples of even reaching out to others who don't have transportation, too, attend meetings when the meeting is in person.

LAKEISHA MCVEY:

Go ahead David, I was just going to reach out to call on you.

SPEAKER:

One thing we were talking about, talking about resources for us to communicate, especially since we are somewhat far apart. Found in our group, and at least one other group, developing slack as a way of communicating now.

We are starting with slack. Started last month. So we're still getting our feet wet and getting used to working with it.

It could be a good tool for us to communicate with, can make it with everyone in the group and make sure people know about what is going on. Have some fun doing it.

I think it is eventually going to facilitate and help our communication.

LAKEISHA MCVEY:

Absolutely David, Pat I see you have your hand up.

SPEAKER:

I just wanted to say we discussed a situation where a person with lived experience didn't feel welcome, and there was conflict within the group and the person left. The group was homogenous. I suppose this person didn't feel welcome.

The truth is if a person is a stranger, doesn't feel welcome, he or she will leave and not come back.

LAKEISHA MCVEY:

-- I love all these rich discussions, I think you will bring up great points.

I wanted to note I put in the chat a link to where you can find information on how you report antiabortion incidents.

If you ever feel like of people filling out that form for some reason, will have an Anti-Oppression.org Or email account if you ever have questions about things or need support. I wanted to highlight that.

We have time for one other person to share if someone wants to speak up.

SPEAKER:

I would like to speak up.

Have been with RESULTS for over 30 years, what keeps me with results mac is the family feeling. Getting to know each other in our group feels like family. When we go to the international conference it feels like expanded family.

I see people on here I have seen only at international conferences but have seen them often enough they feel like extended family.

In our breakout rooms someone suggested having a check in time at the beginning of each meeting, and also getting to know each other. I think that family feeling is what keeps me in RESULTS.

LAKEISHA MCVEY:

I love that.

Catherine what, I saw your hand go up physically, so wanted to give you a chance to chime in (Laughs).

SPEAKER:

Part of my extended family too.

(Laughter)

LAKEISHA MCVEY:

We have time you to unmute and share.

SPEAKER:

Sorry, I thought I was unmute it.

She said what I was going to say, the check-in time I thought was a simple way of making sure you can get to know each other, and know what is going on.

LAKEISHA MCVEY:

Absolutely.

I know there was always a lot of things to be advocating on, symptoms you get caught up on that and forget to take time to communicate with each other and continue to build those relationships.

Thank you both for highlighting that. Yes, that is so important.

Go ahead Sarah, and then we will move on from this section.

SARAH IZABEL:

Just one section, -- second, I want to take the time to recognize what was brought up. That someone left the group.

I wanted to honor that, because that's not easy for a group to have someone with lived experience who just didn't fit in and left.

I wanted to take this time to really recognize and respect that, and our hope doing this is people will -- with lived expense will feel included and won't feel they need to leave the group. That these resources will be shared in the group in case someone is silently struggling with interactions, they have places and resources they can go to. So they can stay and do advocacy.

My heart goes out to the group. It's a very uncomfortable situation. And we are here to talk about uncomfortable things and I want to appreciate for bringing that up and want to honor that. Thank you.

Please email me if you need anything!

LAKEISHA MCVEY:

Thank you Sarah for highlighting that again.

I for Shelley, I know we could talk about this all day long, but we will have to wrap up this section.

You can see on screen Maureen and Sarah's emails if you have questions. You can reach out to me as well or any other member of RESULTS staff if you would like to share any thoughts or questions you have.

For this next portion of the webinar, I will turn it over to some folks on our US policy and global policy teams to talk about how we center people with lived experience in their work and how our policies are informed by people with lived experience.

I will turn it over to Michael.

MICHAEL SANTOS:

Thank you Keisha, and I promise I won't talk about substantive policy today.

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Michael Santos, assistant director of US policy team

based in Washington DC.

Next slide please.

So our Rector Democratic tax credit campaign which is a US poverty policy prayer is different -- looking to start something from the ground up.

Some of our advocacy work is more established, and year after year we expect some routine at what is needed to influence Congress.

With this retro tax credit campaign, but a (Unknown Name) is a bit different. We want big bold changes to the tax code, and are building something some -- from scratch. Looking at organic approach to her work for intercession with poverty, housing, tax policy, top-down approach where the agenda and details are decided by think tanks, coalitions, and other external stakeholders.

So we now have an opportunity to be more intentional and meaningfully engage with these groups by helping to shape what the policy should be, and how we can make this a reality within our network before. And while we are working with the other groups.

We are taking things slow because we want to spend some time socializing the idea of both, our grassroots network, and are members of Congress.

This is the point of trying to make earlier about (Indiscernible) and pain.

Are Grassroots need to be firm, answer the question why is this important to us, and why we are pushing for this particular solution.

Wanted to ground us with some context before we do a deep dive on how we incorporate people, the forces of people with lived experience of poverty and our policy work.

Like most of our policy parities, are yours poverty work is driven and informed by antiabortion values as well.

We have to acknowledge, and we do acknowledge, the tax code is privilege for top we are 100% survival mode. You won't be thinking about the tax code, even those of us who are more economic stable, don't think about taxes all the time.

You will be thinking about more immediate fund metal issues. Whether you will have a place to sleep that night, have food to eat that evening or the following day. Most people are unaware of the tax code or have some type of apprehension dealing with the tax code.

Refunds are always fun, especially now in April when income tax returns are due. Owing money to the IRS, Internal Revenue Service, it's not so much.

Our why is so important to this work, and included within our broader longer-term strategy, is achieving ourselves about the opportunities the tax code offers us to build more stability for people facing poverty.

Next slide please.

So how do EOPs form US policy work?

My work with... Is not just anti-oppression values but also driven by our key goal for US poverty. That's to lead a grassroots centered, grassroots informed camping.

In pursuit of this goal we are strengthening our relationship with volunteers, and if it can help inform strategy, provide them with tools and resources they have two adequate appropriate skills to be amazing advocates on and off the hill, and help us prioritize our a dislike our antipoverty workforce

Are hopeful fellow is working and designing an approach for educating volunteers expertise into our policy advocacy work. So keep and I out for contact from them in the future.

As we go along the way, we are also working on however EOPs, and largely people with lived experience, sports not just policy work but also how they work within a broader network.

I want to pause for a second and talk briefly about what it means to have lived express.

Housing is a basic need, we all come (?) calls the place home full stop apartment, house, community, city.

So we all have lived experience to tell.

For better or worse, all evolves to strike almost all of us have express with tax code too, whether it's filing normal income tax return, benefiting from a tax program, or simply paying some form of tax, either federal, state or local level. Think about the sales tax you pay when you buy something at the grocery store.

My own lived expense of poverty, living in my home country of the Philippines and then moving to the United States at the age of 14 was only a few hundred dollars with me and my parents, largely informs my work – my approach to our work and might rulership with many of you.

So I have expressed living in poverty and housing stability, living paycheck to paycheck, and grab...

My friends and I didn't really know we were growing up in poverty until much later age when I was able to reflect upon my childhood in America.

Empathy and understanding, exalting our own lived experience, informing a collective body of solidarity with others, in addition to my legal expertise, is how my relationship with many of you have

developed over time. And this is what brought me to RESULTS.

I also want to briefly address some of you who may be struggling to make this connection to recent or current personal challenges.

If you don't have a relatable lived experience, or if your lived experience is stated or happened a long time ago. Even past experiences and experiences of privilege, these also matter.

We all need to collectively understand and have a common agreement on that everyone comes from different background, circumstances, cultures and points of view. And we must acknowledge and accommodate these differences. This is how we build solidarity in a strong movement.

In all of this, in addition to our (Indiscernible) values, help inform our guiding principle is with respect to our policy work for

Remember, our grassroots members, all of us have a different set of experiences. We respect and value all of those perspectives, experiences and expertise. Whether direct or indirect. And strive to incorporate them throughout our advocacy.

We are mindful that aspects of identity, culture and experience shape how housing instability and poverty manifest in people's lives. And we value the full range of insights from those experiences.

Working on our goal towards grassroots center/grassroots informed campaign, redefining her if --... We call our EOPs and many of you experts, because no amount of policymaking, data, or new information can change your own experiences.

I am only here to advise and guide you on how to best strategically leverage that on and off the hill so we can advance our policy priorities.

So people with lived experience are the experts. I repeat, people with lived experience are the policy experts. Why?

Because they know what the problems are, and the solutions reside with them.

To quote our whatever hunger fellow Dave cavemen, the people with the most intimate knowledge of the problem have the most powerful insight.

And as long as we are clear what the problems are and why we are pushing for certain solutions, or by you, the experts, support a particular solution, everything in between will fall into place. That includes what the policy (Indiscernible) and could look like.

Expertise doesn't necessarily need to be defined knowing some random facts or data, which other advocates already also do. They are helpful, but committee getting your wife is just as if not more important. I think there is some confusion on what it means to be an expert, but it looks like to be an

expert. Being expert is not the point what is happening on the Hill for knowing politics. Being authentic self is just as critical to be an expert.

Being able to find out what is not working, if you have not heard the program, but is missing or what is not being done, but the gaps are. I know the stakes are high and there is a tremendous pressure for all of you to be perfect in that 30 minutes or even 15 minutes with whoever the Ater office or the member, but I urge you to consider these other perspectives and include them in your advocacy. Sometimes, you need to educate yourself first about these issues and items and that is in fact about --accountable talking about your own story.

So, we are working to grant our process and our community. Next slide, please. We are working to better process and community, working -- listening to sessions with EOPs, volunteers, and ongoing conversations. Meeting them where they are at. So, developing an infrastructure, some mechanism to collect feedback and input on a regular basis. So, this is an ongoing process.

Your understanding that this is a living process in that it can't and will change over time. I met all of our EOPs, I get to know them, I spent time welcoming them into my home when the opportunity arose. All of this to say, some of these listening sessions were delivered instead of some of my day-to-day work of RESULTS that I keep listening and find ways to meaningfully connect and strengthen my relationship, our relationship, and get feedback by being flexible, by presenting multiple other channels.

Whether that is ad hoc listening sessions, joining the -- MPs and fellows. Getting input through the chat during National Webinar policy forms. What I am saying here is that, I do not limit myself in the Abilene truck and collect input and feedback -- Avenue. And have conversation without MPs, I also make myself accessible and reachable. This is core to building a strong campaign and a strong movement. Equally important is not just giving a safe trusting space, but also acknowledging the fact that this takes time.

What I'm trying to say here is that, is a living, breathing process, constantly ships and changes based on where we are with our policy work and the grassroots. So, these listening sessions, ongoing conversations and relationships, helped influence our work and so many different ways. That includes influence over messaging and how we communicate our issues. Influence over advancing advocacy and pushing federal agencies to better demonstration to communicate with Congress on engaging Camino, doing more to engage opportunities, especially people's lived experience.

Not just listening to them, but incorporating their feedback. Right? In policies and rulemaking. Influence over defining our terms and rules of engagement through our principles and values and how we engage. Influence over engagements with external stakeholders as coalition partners. So, these are some of the examples.

Of how the EOPs and people to experience influencer policy advocacy. So, in terms of opportunities ahead, we are continuing to find these opportunities and which are EOPs and other volunteers with experience can participate. Whether that is coming our own table, or connecting with a similar position,

or somebody connection work at those tables. Right? The goal is to provide support, once we have these opportunities available, and I think this is a good approach to tokenized people by only asking them for their expertise that they silicon their stories, that they share.

So, we're looking at different avenues. Whether it is strategic partnerships, partnerships that help us with goals and aligned with her knowledge and principles. Working in coalitions is by the average of our message. Whether that is on the federal, state, or local community level. During press conferences, participating in roundtables. As many of you are familiar with, using media opportunities.

We also do a lot of grassroots work and coalition building on the local level. Again, help with overhead and some type of administrators advocacy. Working with the house, for example, to really push them to work with people with lives experience as their work. Not just with their arbitration, but also with their work in Congress.

I leave you with this: property cannot be viewed or examined in the vacuum, it often intercepted overlaps with whole host of issues people deal with on a day-to-day basis. Housing insecurity is difficult to be divorced from the concept of hunger and lack of access to nutritious food or from the concept of getting assistance to raise children. Right?

We need to be pushing for policy solutions that are shaped and informed by people with lift experience and policy solutions that are responsive to their needs. Sometimes it is easy to rely on a shortcut and assume that some of the policies proposed are being considered have been achieved by people with lift experience. Before I turned over to our next guest speaker, I want to leave you with something. We have our experts on policy. We have volunteers in our bedroom with lived experience.

We want to acknowledge their importance in our work and create mechanisms and structures and processes so that today, too, can have the opportunity to weigh in and not be left out of the table. We want this to be democratic and participatory. That opportunity is both in our power to take this runny campaign. So, let's do this. And thank you very much for listening and sorry for going over time. But, I will turn it over to my colleague Colin Puzo Smith, stop about global policy.

COLIN PUZO SMITH:

Hi everyone, I am the... Here are the results next stop. At least not yet, we do not have a program quite like the Experts on Poverty here in the US. Focus on global issues.

But, I want to start by acknowledging the many advocates, some of whom I see online today. In the network. With lift experience on our global issues. -- Lived experience. On our global issues in particular. I know and have seen the influence that you will have on Congress. Pushing them to rethink their policies and priorities on global policy.

And you know, the world has seen it so very clearly the consequences of global policies that fail to consult the lives of experts. Really, over decades and centuries. And not just passively unhelpful, that actively harmful policies.

Like structural adjustment programs that decimated access to health and education in low income countries. Or refusing to scale up lifesaving treatment because it was too complicated. That is the risk when policy is drained up not only behind closed doors, but across oceans.

From people whose lives it affects. And I want to say that, you know, just acknowledge that global development and coordinate as we know them today, are part of an inherently problematic system. Part -- funding from, largely former colonizers, or enslaving countries.

To the places where they extracted wealth over decades or centuries. And so many of the power structures have not changed. And I also recognize the irony of the presenting right now. Right? As a white person. Born in the United States. Talking to you from DC. And all of the biases that brings.

So, I think we need to really wrestle with what it means to be doing work within the red states with a global focus. And what advocacy with people in solidarity looks like. Not advocacy for people in paternalism, or white, Western Saviorism.

We can jump to the next slide. I want to start by zooming way, way out. How this experience intersects with not just influencing global policy, but I'll actually deciding that. And if this looks like a not very inspiring photo of the meeting, then that is exactly what it is. It is from a three day meeting last November. Where people are reviewing spreadsheets, and budgets, and a long list of policies. If negotiating over details.

And I am not trying to put you to sleep here. Stay with me. Those of you who were a part of RESULTS last year or in the past, remember that just last year, we help secure a record six billion-dollar pledge from the United States. To the Global fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. I want to talk for a second about what happens after we raise that money. So, this photo is at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the global fund.

When they were deciding, making really the final decisions about how to spend that money. I will talk to how the decision was made and how lived experience plays into it. For contrast, in traditional country to country foreign aid, choices are totally subject to the whims of the donor. In order -- older, traditional, global institution, like the Royal Bank, voting power is decided essentially by how much you contribute.

So, money equals authority. With the global fund, it is a different story. So, the United States government, as a lot of you know, put in a full one third of the financial resources for the global fund.

That is not how the government's work. That is not how decisions were made. Because on the board, there is a representative of directly affected communities. Folks with lived experiences of the three diseases. Who has exactly the same boat as the US government. -- Votes.

The global fund itself was born in a lot of ways out of the global aid. -- AIDs movements. So, whether in New York or Delhi, or Cape Town, people living with HIV heavily demanded a seat at the table. Not just because they demanded it in principle, but because they were the ones who knew best how to

respond to the epidemic, as we have been talking about today. The idea was that since the global fund from the start.

So, half of the board is donors. But the other half is low income country governments. Directly affected communities. Civil society. And built in the bylaws to get anything decided by the board. You need a two thirds majority of each of those groups.

So, you know, it is not about the bylaws and speak logistic sick governments. But, this is about power. It is about who gets to decide. The same principle applies across the partnership. Designing for data entry level, reproving the work, are actually doing it, directly affected communities are at the center of the strategy into the decision-making.

This is fundamental to the impact the global but has had on the world. As you know, I also want to be super clear. -- Anne's. This model is far from perfect as a model I just described is the concept at its best on paper. It is not always clear that way.

So, still a very long way to go. But, these are the kinds of models for global policymaking that I think I distracting want to build on. So, we can jump to the next slide. -- We want to build on. I want to talk about another partnership that is fundamental to RESULTS today. About how we do the work.

So, about how we approach it, but also what we decide to work on one comes to our own policy. So, action is a partnership of advocacy organizations. Which includes RESULTS. Start across five continents. It probably hasn't RESULTS affiliate partners in a couple of countries, but is unique about Action and part of why some of you not know about it, is that it was built from the ground up.

Each of us is a locally rated organization, not a franchisor satellite office, or as the area of the big brand, but independent, locally built, designed, and led advocacy organizations. But, we built our canteens together.

So, when RESULTS sets out to logic strategy, our work on TV this year, it is not just come from DC, is born out of this partnership. With Action. When he jumped the next life. So, you have heard us talk a lot about our TB campaign this year, where later this year, world leaders will gather at the UN to make real commitments in the fight against TB.

And Action is at the center of his work. So you know, I think seeing the need for leadership with people having -- with the expertise of having lived through tuberculosis, but also the proper expertise of advocates or policymakers in countries where CP is the biggest problem.

Particularly, in the global South period Mark --. -- TB. Which is too often excluded when it comes to decisions made the shot decisions made in the global North. So many of the barriers we heard about earlier from Sarah. Like, those are true for our global work, too. Often with the added barriers of language, or geography, or visa policies.

So, we still have a very long way to go with this. I want to share a few specific opportunities coming up

this year. So, starting literally next month, in my five weeks here, there will be a series of panels and hearings before the UN. There! They are focused on advocates with lived experience. To then shape the policy declarations that world leaders will sign in September.

At the same time, we have partners globally who are also organizing national consultations across the global South with people with lived experience. Eating into policy asks. There is a big global research reports that we launched this month. That is built on the recommendations by several hundred people with little experience of TB.

Across every region of the world. And all of these things will shape you and meeting, right -- UN meeting, but they are also a huge part of what informs when we do here in the United States. When RESULTS sits down to class the legislation, like the TV we are working on now, all this analysis and recommendations from around the world, is the basis for how we do it.

So, if you are a person with this experience for tuberculosis and you are already connected in, but are interested in taking on this kind of advocacy this year, please do let us know! These are just a couple of specific examples going on right now.

And to be clear, I think in all of this, we have a duty to do more of it and do it more equitably, as Michael and others have been saying all through this call. When it comes to following the lead of people with would experience, both because of the values, but it is also the only way we have impacts with the best policies. So, I am really, really excited to continue to partner with all of you on that.

With that, I will hand it back over to Keisha.

LAKEISHA MCVEY:

Thank you so much Colin. I love this content!

So we are at the point, for the next 10 minutes or so, of sharing similar great announcements with all of you.

The first announcement I wanted to share is about our anti-oppression trainings that are happening. I know some of you on this call were on the training that was yesterday.

For those who work there, yesterday, Dr Christina Gunther led our insight oppression 201 workshop called structural racism, which is the first of three events anti-oppression workshops where we will have deeper conversations about the systemic roots of poverty and understanding how oppression has shaped our society.

It was a phenomenal discussion, I know I learned a lot. And there was 35 volunteers and staff on this call. I encourage those who attended, to put what you thought of it in the chat for others to see.

I highly encourage folks who have not attended the foundational workshop which is Diversity & Inclusion 101 to join the May 23 workshop we have coming up. It will be our last offering of the 101

workshop the spring. So highly encouraged to attend the training before you join some of these more advanced 201 and 301 sessions.

And I especially want to highlight the training we have coming up on May 9 led by three of our Experts on Poverty. So you get more Experts on Poverty content, which I never get enough of.

The training will further highlight the intersection of oppression and classism. It will talk about harmful stereotypes and perspectives of poverty, specifically around thoughts around productivity and professionalism. It will also help you understand how to navigate situations where you might have unintentionally caused someone harm, which we all do at one point in another -- or another in our lives.

And also talks about where to Waco, who do I talk to if I do experience a situation that makes me uncomfortable, or is oppressive, so we'll talk about that in that webinar as well.

There are no prerequisites to attend that Disrupting Biases on Poverty & Classism webinar. Even if you have never attended any of our anti-oppression workshops, you can join this one. Highly encourage folks to register on that. There is no limit on the amount of people who can join that session either.

As a set at the beginning, you can meaningfully engage people with little experience in a way that isn't transactional or problematic without having the foundational knowledge of oppression, microaggressions, addressing what harm is caused that are anti-oppression trainings provide.

As Dr Gunther said yesterday, "if you have a brain you have bias." It is our recent ability to investigate these biases to understand ourselves and understand others.

I strongly encourage folks to make – to attend those trainings. A huge thank you to the over 350 volunteers who prioritized these trainings to continue your learning journey!

And if you missed the spring sections, -- spring sessions, don't worry. They will also be available in the fall as well.

We always encourage folks to register as soon as you find out about them, because the sessions do tend to fill up quickly. Once with Dr Christina Gunther do have a 40% limit.

If you ever have questions about anti-oppression trainings or (Unknown Term) work you can connect through the (Link On Screen).

Am so in awe of the conversations, I hope our trainings continue to encourage those.

I will pass it to our Grassroots Board Member Lindsay to talk about another fantastic leadership opportunity.

LINDSAY SAUNDERS:

Thank you so much Keisha, please don't go away just yet everybody!

Hello and good afternoon RESULTS full stop my name is Lindsay Hayes Saunders, my parents are she/her/hers and I have an important message to share.

For those who don't know me, I've been an advocate for results for over nine years now. I have also served as a rally chapter leader, and one of your representatives as a Grassroots Board Member for almost 3 years.

Today I am honored to join you to talk about our election. No, not the big 2024 US election, I am talking about the 2023 RESULTS Grassroots Board Member Election.

We talk a lot about leadership, well this is the leadership opportunity shaping our community of advocates. When it comes to things like the issues we prioritize to advocate for, how we fund raise and operationalize our organization, and even the overarching decisions that shape current and bigger picture goals.

Currently, I have the honor of serving alongside Lily Callaway, Jennifer Koo, a longtime advocate Lynne Patalano.

We are now excited to announce we are... Each serving three year terms starting this July for stop

You can only someone who be a strong voice revisiting RESULTS volunteers, or even nominate yourself to take a bold step.

Grassroots Board Members play a vital role in RESULTS, purpose and tracking our volunteer network on the Board of Directors. These leaders provide an important bridge between the grassroots network board and organization. They help us connect with what makes RESULTS unique and successful. Our passionate and active grassroots members.

The real power in shaping and guiding our organization to lift up solutions to US and global poverty, while also addressing areas of equity comes from the grassroots.

That is why it is so important to have the four voices of the grassroots as members of the RESULTS Board. We see everyday heroes and what results advocates are, and that is the truth. Just the concept of a board (Indiscernible) was up

I will tell you a secret, it was not my idea to run.

My parents were on nonprofit boards, and my dad was even a county elected official. I am also on a City of Raleigh Board, but didn't see myself on the results -- board until someone planted the seed of the idea in my head, you know who you are and thank you for that.

I don't come from money, I struggle financially as an adult. Like Sarah said it can be hard to talk about. So I did not imagine myself on a nonprofit board of the scale. Igniting this kind of world changing workforce it just did not change -- didn't feel natural to me. Even though I once worked for USAID.

But once I had the idea to run, results mac is given me so much empowerment. I was excited to pursue it.

I have been able to make an influence. I spoke up and guided decisions surrounding equity issues, operations and more. And you can too.

This commitment is a big one, we won't lie, but it is also one where results advocates, especially those with live experience, -- I'm sorry, I lost my place.... The discussions bring real wisdom to the table. We need diverse perspectives on the board. And as you are today, lived experience is expertise.

We encourage participation from any active results volunteer, including those from diverse populations.

Such as, younger advocates, people lived experience, and parents. More details are on the blog, which I believe a link for that is in the chat.

Here are the four key requirements.

1. Must have been at least one year of active expense with RESULTS volunteer in the US.
2. The current volunteer for
3. Commit to the mission of results and the anti-oppression values.
4. Be willing to meet those possibilities of Grassroots Board Members.

I invite you to consider running if you are just as passionate about results, or nominating someone else who has inspired you.

The deadline is April 26 for nominations. When you are ready to do so, please reach out to her Grassroots Board email with the nominee's name, group, email address, phone number, or as much information as you have.

We look forward to your nominations, and I really hope you have a wonderful rest of your weekend. Thank you so much for including me in this today.

KEN PATTERSON:

Thank you so much for that Lindsay. Really appreciate that.

Thank you to everybody, for all our speakers today, and for engaging in me for conversations and the

breakouts you did earlier. I am hoping some folks are going to apply to be Grassroots Board Members after all that too Lindsay.

I want to particularly thank Keisha, Marina and Sarah -- Maureen and Sarah, are experts on poverty today. Your insights and perspectives will make us a stronger organization. If we can all step up into the challenge of learning about systemic oppression and how it affects those of us in the organization, and the folks in our communities frankly.

It is also important to expand our own knowledge and be willing to expand our self-knowledge of how we incorporate impressions into our worldviews and thinking and behavior. Lakeisha said, you have a brain and you have bias. So what a great webinar on that side of things.

I want to share a couple of things as we are finishing up. I want to close with a huge acknowledgment of the advocacy you have done throughout Set The Agenda Campaign so far. As Keisha mentioned at the top of the webinar, 150 meetings have been recorded so far. I know there are others that have not yet been recorded that have been had, great work on that.

We are about halfway where we want to get to, our goal of meeting with all the offices we cover across the country. This is just phenomenal work you have done in a short amount of time.

You are all putting your issues in front of members of Congress, building deep relationships with them and their staff. And this is what will drive change. And what we're seeing happened around change.

I encourage you to continue your Set The Agenda advocacy through the month of April. Knowing the first couple of weeks of April are actually a congressional recess, you might have a better shot of meeting in person with your members of Congress in person during those couple of weeks. Again, to continue to work on Set The Agenda.

I also want to acknowledge the incredible work you have done on Hauser preparations request & letters. The number of signers on their dear colleagues really represents a powerful statement to those who are going to ultimately be making decisions on spending levels for this coming year.

You can find the numbers – the signers on those dear colleague letter is there, but I want to know to you.

You got 129 represented us to sign onto the tuberculosis letter, the funding letter for that. We were requesting \$1 billion for tuberculosis funding next year, more than doubling that, which is a really bold quest for members of Congress to sign on. And we have more silence on that letter than we have ever had before. So phenomenal work on that.

I also want to note we are not yet done. With your preparations process. We need to work on the Senate request. Every day, essentially through April 14.

So here are some of the things you can do:

If you can hit the next slide please.

You want to ask your senators to include results requests and or submissions to the state beef and for (Indiscernible) subcommittee for subunits are preparations memos for that. But you can find in the Set The Agenda Campaign resources on our website. If you go to our home page, scroll down to the other section where the Set The Agenda resource is. You can click a button there to get the resource page. Done at the bottom you'll see the memos there, you can use.

The second thing you can do is ask your Senators to sign on to the Dear Colleague letters. So far there are two letters out right now. One for Maternal and Child Health Nutrition letter. The sign on for that is next Friday, which means and we need to act now.

Lucas had a global funds PEPFAR come out on Friday, the deadline for that is also next Friday. So what is going to be important to make those requests today and follow-up this week.

The follow-up piece is always critical, getting an answer from you members of Congress as to whether they plan to do that.

If you need support of any kind, please reach out to your group leader, your original court Nader or the RESULTS Grassroots impact staff at stop we are here to make sure you have what you need to be powerful advocates.

The last thing here I want to note. As you continue to work on those lists and invite people to come to our meetings, for Set The Agenda as you finish that up in April. It's a powerful experience for people. It is going quite well in some places where they have reached out to these new people.

So that is it for me today.

I want to just give everyone a chance to wish each other a happy spring. Let's go ahead and pull the slide down so everyone can see everybody. You should all be able to unmute yourselves and wish each other a happy spring. April Fools' Day.

SPEAKERS:

Happy spring! Happy Ramadan! Happy Passover! Happy Easter!

(Multiple speakers)

Live captioning by Ai-Media